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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/607,736	06/26/2003	Erik P. Staats	APPL-P2828COA	7573

28661 7590 03/29/2005  
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EXAMINER
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SHIN, CHRISTOPHER B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2182

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/607,736

Applicant(s)

STAATS, ERIK P.

Examiner

Christopher B Shin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6-26-03 &amp; 9-2-04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-6, filed with RCE of June 26, 2003, have been carefully considered. The examiner noticed that the claims 1-6 were identical to the parent application; therefore, the examiner maintains the art rejection as follows.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Matsumoto et al. (5,621, 659).

In figures 1A-1B & 6-14, and their respective description sections describes all of the equivalent function/limitation of the claims 1-6; therefore, the claims 1-6 are clearly anticipated by the teachings of Matsumoto for the following detail teaching:

Claims 1-6                      (5,621,659)

- an automatic ID allocator for audio/video control entities
  - feature of system of figure 1 performing figure 6 process
- a memory space in one or more audio/video control units
  - feature of memory in microcomputer (figures 9 & 11)
- a recursive entity ID search routine within said memory space
  - feature of 6A & B that are further described in figures 7-12
- means with said recursive routine for identifying first available class Ids for entities

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- feature of figure 10 (1-VTR & 2-MDP) which was identified as available/connected equipment
- means for assigning said identified IDs to said entities
  - feature of figure 11
- means for reassigning previously utilized ID instances when said instance are not longer in use
  - feature of figure 9 in combination with figures 10-11 where the address table is repeatedly/recursively used to reassign when connections are changed or modified
- checking a first available ID for availability
  - feature of figure 9 in combination with figures 10-11
- assigning said ID if available to the requested entity in an entity list
  - feature of figure 10/11 in combination with figure 9
- utilizing said ID for the entity
  - feature of figure 10 which uses the ID of figure 9
- recursive checking each next ID for availability if said first ID is unavailable
  - feature of figure 10 (1-VTR & 2-MDP) which was identified as available/connected equipment
- making an unavailable ID available upon disconnection of associated entities
  - feature of col 15 lines 21-22 along with the figures 6-11

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher B Shin whose telephone number is 571-272-4159. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-5:00 M,Tu,Th,F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Christopher Shin  
Primary Examiner  
Of 2182

February 22, 2005  
CBS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Shin', is written over the printed name and title.